

TECHNOLOGY-RELATED DEGREES

Description of Indicator

This indicator measures the number of technology-related degrees conferred by local universities.

Why is it Important?

Effective workforce development and training is vital to Orange County's continued economic wellbeing, particularly with today's tight labor market and increasing demand for graduates with appropriate technological skills to serve the needs of high-tech businesses.

How is Orange County Doing?

There has been a steady rise in the number of biological science bachelor's degrees conferred on Orange County students in the last decade. The number of physical science and other science bachelor's degrees has remained flat, while the number of engineering and computer science undergraduate degrees has declined. More graduate degrees (Masters and Ph.D.'s), biological sciences, engineering, and physical sciences have been awarded, but fewer computer science degrees.

Number of Graduates from Local Universities with Tech-Related Degrees

Orange County Bachelor Degrees

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Biological Sciences	696	823	789	808	688
Biology	78	85	106	140	125
Engineering	352	284	272	270	241
Information & Computer Science	133	99	133	131	156
Computer Science	73	80	68	63	66
Physical Sciences	119	149	123	169	172
Other Sciences	71	83	74	71	95

Orange County Graduate Degrees

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Biological Sciences	53	61	56	71	63
Biology	5	5	19	11	16
Engineering	227	198	200	170	177
Information & Computer Science	44	43	28	31	31
Computer Science	46	33	26	34	24
Physical Sciences	71	67	58	77	69
Other Sciences	19	25	29	43	36

Source: Cal State Fullerton; UC Irvine; Chapman University